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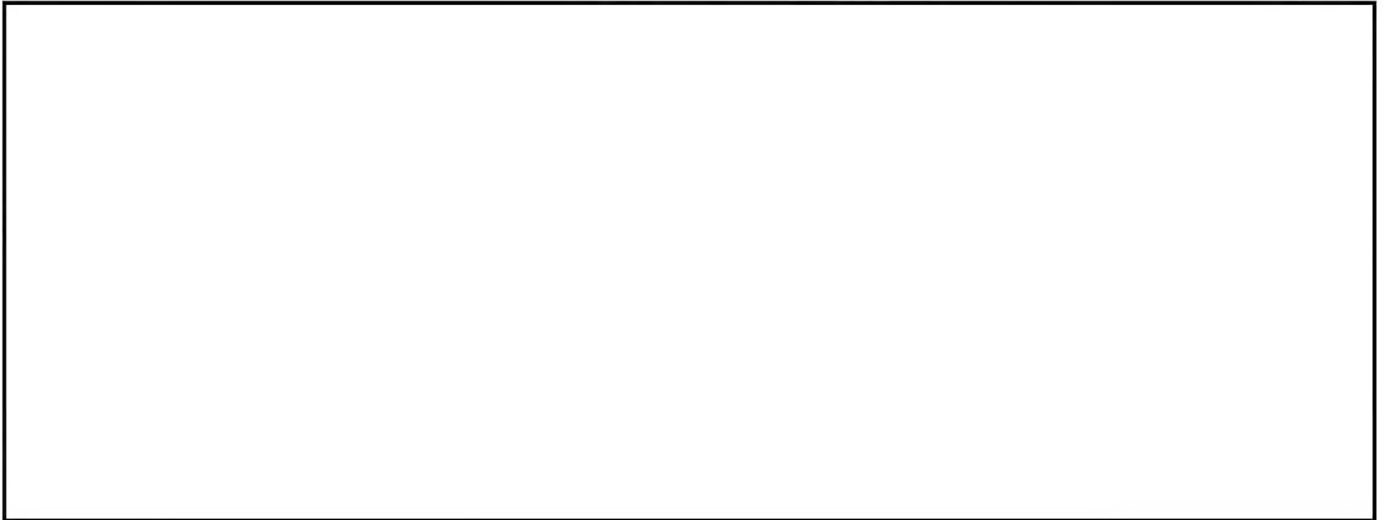


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14. 21st CPSU Congress

An extraordinary 21st Congress of the CPSU has been called by the Central Committee of the Soviet Union to take place on January 27, 1959, with the announced purpose of discussing the proposed 7-year economic plan. The public manifestations emanating from this Congress will undoubtedly attempt to spread a propaganda image of the Soviet Union thrusting ahead during the next seven years to achieve goals which will put the USSR in a position to over-take the United States. No such Party Congress has ever been called before to approve any of the previous 5-year plans, nor at any time before has there been such an advance build-up for any of the economic plans. This Congress will attempt to present statistical proof of the wave of the future led by Khrushchev and will undoubtedly be used as a forum for castigating purged Soviet leaders and also the demoted "economic faction" led by Saburov and Pervukhin.

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15. Iraq Treason Trials

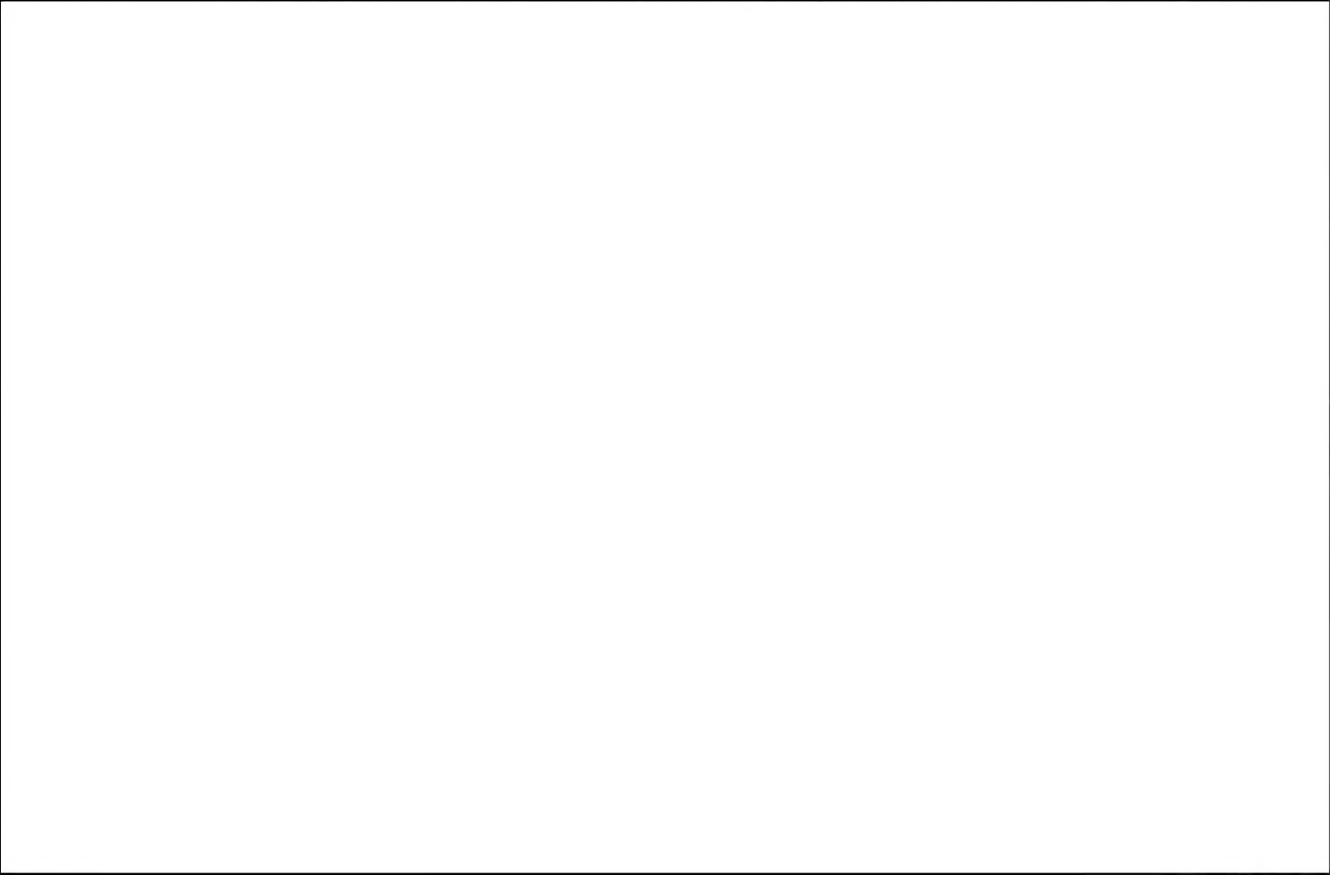
Since August the Iraqi government has been conducting a series of trials of officials of the previous regime who are charged with treason and with acting in support of "western imperialist aims." The court has shown extreme bias against the defendants. A former prime minister, a former army chief of staff and a former deputy chief of staff have been sentenced to death. Clemency has been publicly and privately urged upon Kassem by various world figures, including Dag Hammarskjold. It is assumed that the Soviets and Iraqi Communists would like to see the sentences carried out in the spirit of anti-Western vengeance. The fact that Kassem has not yet acted may indicate a tendency to resist Communist pressure. If the executions do take place they will be an indication of the extent to which he is under Communist control.

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16. Nasser's Dependence on Soviets

There are reliable indications that Nasser and his key associates are increasingly concerned over the extent of their regime's dependence on Soviet military, economic and technical aid, particularly since the communists in Iraq and Syria have taken such a decisive anti-UAR position



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17. The Status of East Germany

A major Soviet policy objective in Central Europe has been the preservation of the division of Germany which would be accomplished if enough major powers recognized the communist regime in East Germany. Khrushchev's 27 November note to the western powers concerning West Berlin indicates that one of the Kremlin's immediate goals is to force western diplomatic recognition of the "German Democratic Republic." Despite intensive past efforts by the communists, the East German regime has been recognized by only eleven communist bloc countries and Yugoslavia.

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18. The Sudan

The military government of Gen. Abboud appears to be consolidating its position internally though faced with grave economic problems. In foreign affairs it is attempting to develop a middle-of-the-road posture, which is anti-Communist and avoids both Egyptian entanglement and pointedly pro-Western attitudes. The question of the role played in the coup by the anti-UAR Umma party and former Prime Minister Khalil is still a matter for speculation in Cairo and elsewhere.

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